

Mansfield YSB Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 18, 2008
12 noon @ YSB Conf. Rm. B

Attendees: Ethel Mantzaris, Frank Perrotti, Eileen Griffin,
Jerry Marchon, Amber Hoyt,

Staff: Kevin Grunwald, Pat Michalak, Kathy McNamara,
Kathy Easley, Karen L. Taylor

Regrets: Mike Collins, Candace Morrel, Sheila Riffle

- I. Call to Order
Ethel Mantzaris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05PM
- II. Approval of Minutes – **MOTION** by Frank Perrotti, seconded
by Eileen Griffin. Vote: Unanimous in favor of approving
minutes as submitted.

Pat introduced Kathy Easley, Social Worker, newly hired
working in the Adult Services Dept., of Human Services.

III. Kevin Grunwald, Director

- Kevin informed the Board that a new town ordinance
establishing departments resulted in requesting the Social
Services Department changing the name to Human Services.
- Kevin updated the Board on the Underage Drinking Coalitions
meeting after their “Take It Back” event, providing the Board
with a copy of the newspaper article printed by the Chronicle.
Eileen Griffin provided the Board with her assessment of the
meeting. Eileen would like to see Youth Services be
recognized more for the work they provide the community. A
side discussion ensued.

Pat Michalak – YSB Coordinator Update

Youth Services Update February 2008

- Mansfield Youth Services, in conjunction with the Connecticut Youth Services Association hosted a Legislative Breakfast which was very well attended. Fourteen Eastern Region Youth Service Bureaus shared program innovations, YSB enhancement programs and data gathering breakthroughs! Legislators had the opportunity to hear about our needs and our work.
- Staff participated in the Uconn Career Fair to provide more exposure about our programs and to also enlist more students to work with us. We met a number of students who were very interested in working with us next academic year.
- Staff co-facilitated the MMS special education dinner for families, excellent attendance and participation from parents and students.
- Staff facilitated families with financial need to receive free tickets to the Wizard of Oz performance at Uconn's Jorgensen Theater. We received great feedback from the families which attended.
- YSB coordinator attended a program on eating disorders sponsored by the Women's Center at Uconn entitled "ANDREA'S VOICE" The presentation promoted understanding without judgment and encouraged shifted paradigms to move individuals toward personal change with a desire for action in the areas of prevention and treatment of this all too silent epidemic.
- Leadership training program at MMS has been set into motion and is scheduled to begin in April. Ken Caputo from Villari's Martial Arts School will be co-facilitating this group along with Julie White, a middle school teacher. We will be using Enhancement money received from the State Department of Education to fund this initiative.
- Julie Marchon is our new volunteer from Three Rivers College. She has been a wonderful addition. She is co-facilitating our Cope Group at Goodwin School, participating in our intergenerational activities as well as providing outreach to a homebound senior in town.

IV. Old Business:

- Kidtrac – Kevin is attending a meeting on 3/19 regarding a pilot program and will update the Board.
- Subcommittee – Kevin provided a draft Operational Plan handout to the Board members.
- Budget – The Board members were advised by Kevin that there will be no increases in the budget per the Town Manager.

V. New Business:

- Kevin handed out a draft description for the Challenge Program and requested input from the members.
- Frank Perrotti suggested that the originator of the Challenge Program, Ray Lawrence be contacted for input on Challenge.

VI. Other

Pat advised the Board that she had received an email expressing an individual's desire to be on the Youth Services Advisory Board.

Meeting adjourned at 12:47PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen L. Taylor
Secretary